BASEBALL CLUB PRACTICE DAY
WELL, UH, ALL RIGHT.
IT'S TIME TO INTRODUCE YOU ALL TO YOUR JOBS.
HEH HE, YOU'VE GOTTEN TENSE

FIRST UP IS JOUJI-KUN ON DRUMS.
THEN TAIHEI-KUN WITH THE FLAG.
AKIRA IS SET TO BE THE SECRE-TARY
第2話
とどかない声
CHAPTER 2: LOST

I'LL BE VICE PRESIDENT.
AND FINALLY,

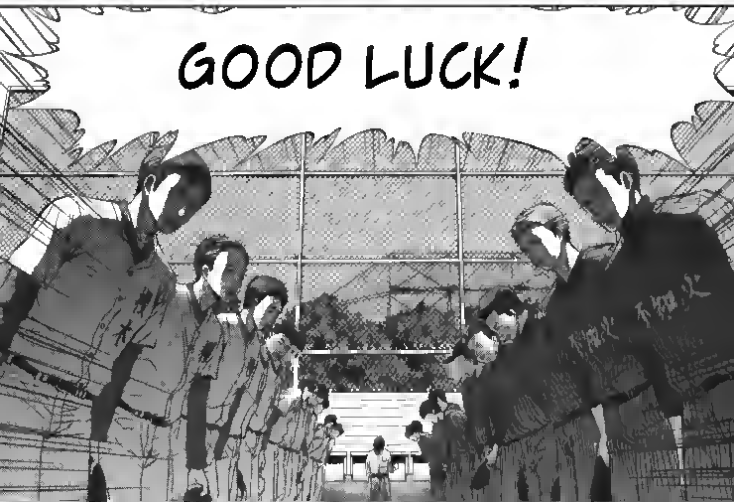
第2話
とどかない声

CHAPTER 2: LOST VOICES

TOTAL AGREEMENT
I DON'T THINK I'M BUILT FOR THE WHOLE REP THING
THAT, AND, WELL, TRUTH BE TOLD
YEP, YOU HEARD ME
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU WE'RE STANDING HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE
YEAH, I AGREE I'VE GOT GOOD VIBES ABOUT MOMOKO-SENPAI TAKING THE JOB
OK?
I'LL JUST ACT AS YOUR SUPPORT FROM HERE ON OUT
YOU'RE WAY BETTER AT GATHERING PEOPLE THAN ME
THAT WON'T BE NEEDED
WHAT KIND OF CLUB DO YOU THINK WE ARE?
I'LL GIVE IT MY BEST SHOT! OH, AND HEY, SINCE I'M NOT THE LOUDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD, WOULD IT BE OKAY FOR ME TO USE A MEGAPHONE?
ピー!
MISS PRESI-DENT?
WELL, IF THAT'S HOW YOU REALLY FEEL, THEN I'LL DO IT.

OKAY! LET'S GIVE THIS OUR BEST SHOT, YOU GUYS!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE SONG. I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT FOR YOU.
MIND SHOWING US WHAT YOU MEAN BY THAT?
YOU TALKED ABOUT THE PEP SQUAD HAVING "SPIRIT."

BOW!
THIS SCRIMMAGE BETWEEN SHIRANUI ACADEMY AND SAKURAGI HIGH WILL NOW COMMENCE.


GOOD LUCK!

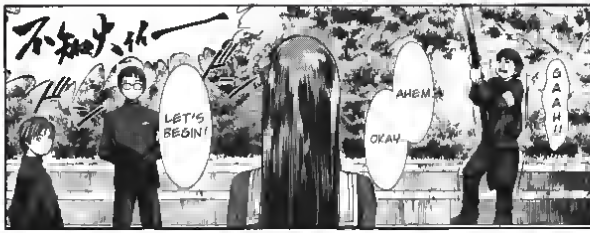
LET'S GET THIS FLAG UNFURLED
OKAY!
HOW'S IT GOING WITH YOU TAIKO PREP, JOUJI-KUN?
WHEW, I'M SO NERVOUS
WOOO! YOU GO, OSHIMA-KUN!
HE'S HERE!?
PLAY BALL!

STRIKE!!
I LOVE YOU, OSHIMA-KUN!@
-PENT
MISS PRESI-DENT

YOU CAN DO IT, MOMOKO!
ALL RIGHT, FIRST THINGS FIRST...
TO-DO LIST
OH, UH, OKAY!
AGH, OSHIMA-FUN SURE HAD ME THERE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING JUST STARING OUT THERE? WE'RE ALL READY HERE
!?

DAMN, THEY'RE GOOD
SHIRANUI HAS GOT THEIR ACT TOGETHER THAT'S FOR SURE
TO TOP IT ALL OFF, THE SCHOOL'S BASEBALL TEAM IS ALSO ONE OF THE BEST IN THIS PREFECTURE THEY'RE FAMOUS FOR GOING TO KOSHIEN TEN YEARS STRAIGHT
SHIRANUI'S SQUAD IS TOP-TIER BEST IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY
DON'T YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM?
RYU-TARO-KUN!

ANYWAY, WE'RE NOT GONNA LOSE TO THOSE GUYS!
TAIHEI-KUN, LET'S GET THAT FLAG UP!
YOU GOT IT!
?
OH GOD, IT'S SO HEAVY! AND HUGE!
ALL RIGHT, NOW'S MY TIME TO SHINE! I'LL AIM THIS AT OSHIMA'S FAN CLUB AND THEY'LL STOP DEAD IN THEIR TRACKS!
UH...
WHOA! IT'S SO BIG!
THAT'S GREAT AND ALL, BUT LESS GAWKING AND MORE GETTING BACK TO BUSINESS WOULD BE NICE
OH COME ON!
TAIHEI-KUN! THE FLAG IS THE PEP SQUAD'S LIFE BLOOD! DON'T DROP IT!


LET'S BEGIN!
AHEM
OKAY
GAAH!!

UH
EAH-EAH

HUH
SA-KU-RA-GI-

OY!
WHERE THE HELL'S THAT "SPIRIT" OF YOURS?

ER... SA, SA-KU-RA-GI~
HUH? I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

HEY, HOW ABOUT I TRY SINGING IT?
WAIT, AKIRA-KUN! NOT UNTIL SHE SAYS SO!
FEH!
HE REALLY IS TONE DEAF!
WHAT'S WITH THEM?
THIS THING IS GONNA KILL ME!
THIRD!
OH GOD, WHAT'S GOING ON UP THERE?

SAFE!
10
AH!
!!
HEY, SORRY ABOUT THAT, OSHIMA.
UH,
WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU, OSHIMA? CHILL OUT A BIT, MAN
I'M SORRY
FOUL BALL!
DEAD BALL!

IT'S JUST MY FOCUS IS A BIT SHOT
WHOA, LOOK OUT!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT
FEH.
UWAAH!
GU-HA!
AH.

チーム	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R
木緒火 学園	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	5
橋木 高校	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0

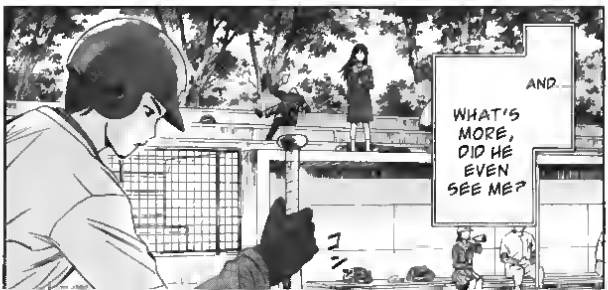
シュカ
ぐぁぁ
OH, CHINA-TSU-CHAN
はくれんわたる
そうらっ
ぶーきっこそ
DAMN, SHIRANUI IS ON A WHOLE OTHER LEVEL.
I DON'T GET IT.

WAS THIS REALLY A GOOD IDEA AFTER ALL?

THINGS JUST DON'T ADD UP HERE.

I WON-DER..
COULD OSHIMA-KUN HEAR ME OUT THERE TODAY?

THE PEP SQUADS FROM MY BOOKS DON'T ACT LIKE THIS.


AND...
WHAT'S MORE, DID HE EVEN SEE ME?

HE LIED TO ME.
MY UNCLE PRACTICALLY FORCED ME TO COME HERE AS SAKURAGI'S CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
OSHIMA KNOWS HIS WAY AROUND A BALL, BUT HIS HEART DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MUCH IN IT
BUT COME ON.
HE SAID THIS TEAM WAS GOOD
CAN I REALLY DO IT?
IS THERE ANY WAY IN HELL I CAN GET THIS TEAM TO KOSHIEN WITH JUST MY OWN TWO HANDS?

THAT'S GAME!
パスッ
WHAT THE HELL!? DAMMIT!

ア ィ ィ ィ ア
ズキン…
…
ア
I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING.
それでは
WHAT SHOULD I… WHAT SHOUD I DO?
HEY
OSHIMA-KUN… YOU LOOK SO HURT
LET'S SEE WE'VE GOT THE FLAG, TAIKO DRUM…
NO, THAT ISN'T IT!
MY VOICE! THAT'S WHAT I CAN USE!
O…

IN THE END...

MY VOICE WAS
JUST TOO QUIET
TO EVER REACH
OSHIMA-KUN.

MY APOLOGIES BUT WE'RE GOING TO DECLINE DOING THE POSTGAME CHEERS TODAY.
EH!?

YOU GUYS WITH SAKURAGI?

!?
MY VOICE! IT'S GONE HOARSE!

THOSE GUYS ARE FROM SHIRANUI!

YOU'RE NOT WRONG.
WHAT?
I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT SHIRANUI WAS ALWAYS ONE TO DO IT, BUT...
SENPAI, WHAT DO THEY MEAN?
AFTER A MATCH, BOTH PEP SQUADS USUALLY GIVE PROPS TO EACH OTHER AND SHARE IN ONE LAST CHEER
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
WE'VE NO NEED TO RECOGNIZE YOU AS A FELLOW SQUAD IF YOU'RE GOING TO ACT LIKE THAT.
HOWEVER, YOUR ANTICS TODAY WERE AN EYE-SORE AND YOU HAVE NO SPINE.
HEY!
THAT'S

YOU SAYING IT'S OUR FAULT YOU LOST?
THE WAY I SEE IT, IT'S 'CAUSE YOU'RE A WEAK-ASS TEAM.
JOUJI-KUN, PLEASE
YEAH!
WE'VE GOT NO NEED FOR YOU IF ALL YOU'RE GONNA DO IS BE A NUISANCE
I'M CAPTAIN MAKABE AND I DON'T WANT YOU GUYS COMING TO ANY MORE GAMES FROM NOW ON
OH YEAH!? WELL YOU GUYS WOULD BE NOTHING WITHOUT OSHIMA ON YOUR TEAM!
YOU LOT ARE THE WORST PEP SQUAD I'VE EVER SEEN!
HUH!?
TAI-HEI-KUN, STOP!
STOP...
JUST...
しゅん

OH, WHO AM I KIDDING?
SHIRANUI, THE BASE-BALL TEAM, EVERYONE IS RIGHT ABOUT US.

THE END OF THE ROAD

OF ALL THE CHAPTERS IN FURE FURE SHOUJO THAT ARE LOGISTICALLY HARD TO TRANSLATE, CHAPTER 2 IS PROBABLY THE ROUGHEST OF THE BUNCH. WHILE THE RAW DIALOG ITSELF IS STRAIGHTFORWARD AND EASY ENOUGH TO TACKLE FOR ANYBODY WITH SUFFICIENT JAPANESE EXPERIENCE, ONCE YOU HIT THE CHEERS, IT'S ANOTHER MATTER ENTIRELY. NOT ONLY ARE THE LINES FOR SHIRANUI WRITTEN IN A CALLIGRAPHY FONT THAT CAN'T BE EASILY REPLICATED IN ENGLISH WITHOUT PAINSTAKING REDRAWING, BUT MUCH OF IT IS ALSO HEAVILY ENMESHED WITHIN THE REST OF THE PANEL ART ITSELF, WHICH NATURALLY CREATES EVEN MORE HEADACHES FOR THE SORT OF PEOPLE THAT ARE ACTUALLY SKILLED IN THAT SORT OF RECONSTRUCTION. ALL OF THAT IS BEFORE YOU FACTOR IN THAT SONG TRANSLATION IS ALWAYS SUCH A TRICKY ART, AS IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE UNDER MOST CIRCUMSTANCES TO REPLICATE BOTH THE ORIGINAL MEANINGS OF THE LYRICS AND ANY APPLICABLE RHYMING/BEAT STRUCTURES. SOMETHING HAS TO GIVE, TO SAY THE LEAST, AND THAT WAS ESPECIALLY TRUE WITH THIS CHAPTER.

ALL OF THAT IS BY AND LARGE WHY I'VE LEFT THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE TEXT INTACT FOR ONLY THOSE STRETCHES OF THE CHAPTER. TO ME PERSONALLY, WHAT MATTERS ISN'T REALLY WHAT THE SHIRANUI SQUAD GUYS ARE SINGING SO MUCH AS JUST THE INTIMIDATING VIBE THAT THEY PUT OUT. EVEN IF YOU CAN'T READ THE JAPANESE, YOSHIZUKI'S ART MAKES IT REALLY, REALLY APPARENT JUST HOW OUT OF THEIR LEAGUE MOMOKO AND COMPANY ARE AT THIS POINT WHEN FACED WITH A PEP SQUAD AS SKILLED AS SHIRANUI'S. ALL OF THESE SAME ISSUES APPLY TO THAT ONE PANEL OF AKIRA SINGING AFTER THE SCRIMMAGE; LYRIC TRANSLATION REMAINS DIFFICULT WITH HIS PORTION AS WELL AND I'M NOT CONFIDENT I COULD REPLICATE THAT FONT IN SUCH A WAY THAT WOULD CONVEY TO ENGLISH READERS EQUALLY WELL AT THIS POINT THAT HIS SINGING CONTINUES TO BE ABSOLUTELY POOR. THESE AREN'T A STATE OF AFFAIRS THAT I'M SATISFIED WITH AS A TRANSLATOR, WHICH IS WHY I'LL CONSIDER RETURNING TO THIS CHAPTER IN THE FUTURE IF I CAN FIGURE OUT A SUITABLE WAY TO OVERCOME ALL OF THESE ISSUES. IT IS, AFTER ALL, MY JOB AS A TRANSLATOR TO BRING AS MUCH OF THE TEXT TO ENGLISH AS I POSSIBLY CAN. THE ONLY REASON I'M MODERATELY OKAY WITH THE CURRENT STATE OF THINGS IS BECAUSE THE KIDS ARE CLEARLY SUPPOSED TO BE SPEAKING JAPANESE ANYWAY BY VIRTUE OF THE SETTING, SO IF NOTHING ELSE, AT LEAST THAT REMAINS CONSISTENT FOR A FEW PANELS.

THAT BEING SAID, THE USUAL CREDITS APPLY HERE FOR THIS CHAPTER. I, PEPSIMAN, HANDLED EVERYTHING ABOUT THE PREPARATION OF THIS TRANSLATION, SAVE FOR THE SCANNING OF THE ORIGINAL MANGA, THE SOURCE OF WHICH IS BEST LEFT ANONYMOUS.